

Office of Communications

703-248-5003 FAX 703-248-5146

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, March 1, 2004

CONTACT: Dionne C. Williams (703) 248-5101

Water Samples Collected to Ensure Lead-Free Levels in the City

FALLS CHURCH, VA. - The City's Public Utilities Division recently collected water samples from about 15 homes for lead testing. These homes are in the same pool of 50 homes that the City has used in the past for its compliance sampling that is performed every three years in June or July.

The homes uses for testing were chosen because they were built in the late 1970's, just before the rules on lead content of solder were changed to reduce permissible lead content in solder. The theory is that these homes would be the most likely to have elevated lead levels out of all the homes in our service area, since the City has no lead services.

The City recently collected this data in advance of its regularly scheduled June testing to confirm that the City's water lead levels are in compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) standards. The data for the City's recent samples shows lead levels well below the 15 parts per billion levels. EPA's regulations specify that the 90th percentile results cannot exceed 15 parts per billion. The highest level from this group of 15 was less than 4 parts per billion.

Public Utilities will conduct its next round of compliance testing in June of this year.

For more information please visit the City's website at www.ci.falls-church.va.us.

###

www.ci.falls-church.va.us